

From: ALEX BAEZ [26623@lapd.lacity.org]
To: IRVIN ISABELLA [31823@lapd.lacity.org], Alek [alek3773@gmail.com]
CC: Marisol Rodriguez [marisol.salguero@lacity.org], RAYMOND PUETTMANN [31519@lapd.lacity.org], RALPH SANCHEZ [30735@lapd.lacity.org], Steve S. [sseyler@andrewsinternational.com]
BC: PETER ZARCONE [peter.zarcone@lapd.lacity.org]
Subject: Re: Aggressive solicitation
Created: 03-Feb-2016 01:23
Delivered: 03-Feb-2016 01:19
Stored: 12-Feb-2016 18:18
Status: forwarded,opened,read
Box Type: received
Folder: PETER ZARCONE Home > Mailbox
Message Id: 56B156AA.LAPDDomC.POC4.200.20000EA.1.49863.1
Attachments: TEXT.htm [Save] [Open]
IMAGE.png [Save] [Open]
IMAGE.png [Save] [Open]
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IMAGE.png [Save] [Open]
Mime.822 (excluded from export)

Hello Mr. Friedman,

Thank you for your email. I certainly understand and appreciate your frustration in this matter. I want to assure you that we are monitoring and actively working this problem. I honestly can tell you that this is a challenging issue for us. It is not against the law to handout CD's of your own music and request donations. In fact the law protects the rights of individuals to do so. We are aware of the tactics used by many of the CD vendors to make money. We have made several arrest and detentions based on this activity. The city attorney has issued stay away orders from the Hollywood Entertainment District for individuals arrested and convicted. We currently have over 50 stay away orders from the Hollywood Entertainment District. Unfortunately, many of the victims targeted by the CD vendors refuse to file charges and we also are faced with lack of cooperation with victims that are tourist from different states and countries. We are actively using undercover officers, foot beat patrols, bicycle officers and video surveillance to monitor and arrest the CD vendors and to address all pubic safety issues in the Hollywood Entertainment District. We will continue to conduct these operations and maintain the safety of all working, residing and visiting the Hollywood Entertainment District.

Lieutenant Alex Baez
Officer-In-Charge
Hollywood Entertainment District
(213) 972-2971 Ext. 315
"One Team, All In"

Lieutenant Alex Baez
Officer-In-Charge
Hollywood Entertainment District
(213) 972-2971 Ext. 315
"One Team, All In"

>>> "Alek" <alek3773@gmail.com> 2/2/2016 12:18 PM >>>

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Dear Officer:

Sorry for a mass-mailer... However, I believe this is the only thing I could do at this point. The aggressive solicitation of CD selling on Hollywood Blvd - between La Brea and Highland - has gotten worse. If previously the CD-selling vendors (rappers) would only be seen between Orange Drive and Highland, now they seem to have invaded the entire north side of Hollywood Blvd, between La Brea and Highland.

For instance, last night - around 8:15 a.m. - I saw more rappers (they appear to be black males, in sunglasses, with a bunch of CD's in their hands - you can't miss them!) harassing pedestrians with their CD's! This has got to stop.

Can you please step-up afternoon-to-evening enforcement of Hollywood Blvd - especially adding officers on foot patrol. The fact that every single time as I walk by - I witness harassment and forceful selling of CD's - says that unfortunately no improvement (or additional enforcement) has taken place. Those CD-selling rappers should stop harassing people, or else - they should face the consequences to the full extent of the Law.

Please feel free to contact me, should you have any questions, or need additional information.

Thank you so much for taking action, and for all your work!

Sincerely,

~ Alexander Friedman

(323) 465-8511

Hollywood, CA

----- Original Message -----

Dear Officer / Representative:

First off, thank you for all your work. However, the situation with safety - and especially with aggressive solicitation of street CD vendors - has not improved. Just an hour ago I walked on Hollywood Blvd - northern side, between Highland Ave. and Orange Dr. - and saw a rapper aggressively trying to sell his CD's. I have attempted to contact LAPD multiple times regarding aggressive solicitation on Hollywood; however, such aggressive sales by rappers continue. Walking on the north side of Hollywood Blvd has become extremely unpleasant, if not worrisome - due to daily harassment by CD vendors. Every single day those rappers are present.

I got a good description of one of such individuals:

male - black, slender, appears in his 20's,

dressed in grey-white jeans, black jacket, red baseball cap, and sunglasses.

This occurred today (Monday, 1/11/2016) at approx. 2:20 pm. Location: northern side of Hollywood Blvd, near the pedestrian crosswalk, exactly between Highland Avenue and Orange Drive, just east of The Hard Rock Cafe.

The black male kept physically shoving his CD into every passerby that he saw; when the pedestrian refused - the rapper started yelling some things, and continued harassing them.

This has got to stop! The CD vendors should stop forcefully sell their CD's, and should stop harassing pedestrians. Remember, this may negatively affect not just pedestrian life, but also tourism - as anyone who is being harassed, will unlikely return to this area.

Lastly, I haven't seen a single (!) enforcement officer anywhere in the location. I would strongly encourage to add security personnel - to not only provide basic safety - but to also prevent aggressive solicitation from happening.

Thank you for taking immediate measures! Please feel free to contact me at (323) 465-8511

- Alexander Friedman
(323) 465-8511
Hollywood, CA 90028

----- Original Message -----

From: Dan Halden
(mailto:daniel.halden@lacity.org)
To: alek3773@gmail.com
Cc: Marisol Rodriguez
(mailto:marisol.salguero@lacity.org) ; BAEZ, ALEX
(mailto:26623@lapd.lacity.org) ; PUETTMANN, RAYMOND
(mailto:31519@lapd.lacity.org) ; Steve S.
(mailto:sseyler@andrewsinternational.com)
Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2015 11:29
Subject: Re: Safety & security on Hollywood Blvd

Dear Alexander,

Thank you for your email. I am CCing Lt. Baez and Sgt. Puettman of the Hollywood Entertainment District (HED) unit within LAPD Hollywood Division.

The area you mentioned -- Hollywood Blvd b/w La Brea and Vine -- actually is already part of the HED, which has 60 officers assigned to it. The Hollywood & Highland area, the tragedy from last week notwithstanding, does have a fixed post assigned to it -- a patrol car is at the location 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year. That being said, LAPD is constantly working on new strategies (including footbeats, etc.) to enhance public safety efforts and they regularly consult with our office as well as members of the public such as yourself. Your feedback is valued and appreciated.

I am also CCing Steve Seyler with Andrews International, which provides additional security via the Hollywood Property Owners Alliance during daytime hours, 7 days a week.

I will let Lt. Baez and/or Sgt. Puettman respond directly to the issues you have raised; please rest assured we are working hard for a safer Hollywood Blvd.

Have a great Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Dan Halden
Hollywood Field Deputy
Office of Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell
1722 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90026
(213) 207-3015 | www.cd13.com

Find the Councilmember on:

On Wed, Nov 25, 2015 at 11:14 AM, Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org> wrote:

FYI:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Alek <alek3773@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Nov 19, 2015 at 10:16 PM
Subject: Safety & security on Hollywood Blvd
To: councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org

Dear Mr. O'Farrell:

I am a Hollywood resident, and I'm concerned about lack of security along Hollywood Blvd., specifically between La Brea Ave. and Vine St - including the famous Hollywood & Highland shopping center.

Unfortunately, despite recent incidents and declining safety, presence of police (or other security personnel) on Hollywood Blvd is slim-to-none. And this past Wednesday's incident - where a Russian tourist was stabbed by a transient - just proves how vulnerable people are, and how urgently we need constant police enforcement..

Here is an interesting comparison. Earlier this week I visited Santa Monica Pier, and noticed strong presence of Santa Monica Police Department. On the pier I counted at least 3 (three) police vehicles, and a number of foot-patrol officers, which is great! Now, such heavy police presence truly makes a difference, and the Santa Monica Pier felt very safe. To the contrary, on Hollywood Blvd most times not a single (!) police officer is present, and only one patrol car could be seen near the subway station - but with no officers inside, or anywhere near!

As a result of no enforcement, anarchy is literally taking over the once-safe Hollywood Blvd:

- Transients and homeless who seem to do what they want;

- CD-selling street vendors / rappers who harass pedestrians daily and are involved in daily (!) aggressive solicitation (*this is on the north side of Hollywood Blvd, between Orange Dr. and Highland Ave.);
- Street performers who play extremely loud music (while performing);
- Drug addicts who also harass (and sometime threaten) pedestrians;
- Criminals who occasionally commit anything they want (e.g. Wednesday's stabbing incident); and
- Bicyclists and skateboarders who ride on sidewalks (often at high rates of speed!) despite restriction signs.

This has got to stop!

I strongly urge you to implement constant enforcement of Hollywood Blvd - on both north on south sides - between La Brea and Vine. Considering the density of this area - and presence of numerous drug addicts, crackheads, and other shady characters - police monitoring and on-foot personnel need to patrol this area all day, 7 days a week. And I'm talking about deploying police officers on foot - who should monitor the foot traffic. It is time something is done to make this popular tourist area safe and inviting!

If you believe I should forward my suggestion to another department(s) and/or city agency(s), please let me know. Likewise, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information, and/or if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you again,
and - thanks for all your work!

Sincerely,

- Alexander Friedman
(323) 465-8511
(tel:%28323%29%20465-8511)
Hollywood, California

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With kind regards,

Mitch O'Farrell
Councilmember, 13th District
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